



AUG 27 2003

Docket F-3278C

PATENT

#410
Analt
Albany
gslwcz

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Skeem et al.

Serial No.: 08/892,836

Group No.: 3723

Filed: July 15, 1997

Examiner: G.Nguyen

For: Metal Single Layer Abrasive Cutting Tool Having a Contoured Cutting Surface

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700
SEP 03 2003

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Amendment Under 37 CFR Section 1.111

This amendment is submitted in response to a first office action, mailed May 20, 2003, in the above-captioned patent application. Prosecution of the application has been reopened following an appeal to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences.

Claims 1-34 are pending in the application. Claims 28, 29 and 34 have been allowed, claims 3, 4 and 10 are objected to as depending from a rejected claim and claims 1, 5-9, 11-26 and 30-33 stand rejected under 35 USC Section 103(a) over US Pat. No. 5,018,276 to Asada ("Asada") in view of US Pat. No. 3,894,673 to Lowder ("Lowder"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

Amendment

In accord with 37 CFR Section 1.121, a set of amended claims is annexed hereto as Appendix A. Claims 1, 13 and 30 have been amended to recite that the first uppermost cutting layer "consists of bonded abrasive grain." Support for these amendments may be found at page, 9, lines 20-25, Fig. 3 (grains 1); page 12, lines 8-14, Fig. 6 ("grains at uppermost cutting level 13 (those bonded to the top of each tooth